



NATCA Calls on Congress to Protect National Airspace System from Proposed Budget Cuts

In a letter sent today to both the House of Representatives and the Senate, NATCA cautioned all Members of Congress against passing legislation that would enact arbitrary cuts and caps to discretionary spending. The Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023 (LSGA) is newly introduced legislation that likely would open the door to drastic across-the-board cuts to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) funding, which could jeopardize the safety and efficiency of the National Airspace System (NAS). In exchange for the cuts, the legislation proposes to raise the debt ceiling for almost one year. The legislation is currently pending in the U.S. House and is expected to receive a vote in the chamber as early as this week.



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Although the legislation does not prescribe which agencies and programs would experience cuts, given LSGA's proposed framework to arbitrarily cut and then cap discretionary spending for the next 10 years, it is highly likely that the FAA would face a reduction in current resources and severe funding constraints. This would negatively affect the FAA in many of the same ways that sequestration cuts hobbled the agency and the aviation industry a decade ago, including when furloughs of air traffic controllers caused flight delays to nearly triple.

NATCA is advising legislators use extreme caution when considering how indiscriminate spending cuts could exacerbate the current problems facing the FAA and NAS such as staffing shortfalls, sustainment of existing air traffic surveillance technology and critical safety systems, the development and implementation of new technology, as well as integrating drones and other new airspace entrants. We need only look back at how the sequestration spending cuts in 2013 harmed the FAA, the frontline workforce, and the entire U.S. aviation industry to imagine what could happen this time around. Congress must learn from our past and make sure that preserving the safety and efficiency of the system for the flying public is taken into consideration before agreeing to indiscriminate spending cuts.

As we have mentioned before, we are also concerned about the risks of defaulting on the nation's debt, which also could lead to furloughs and disruptions to federal employee pay and benefits. We hope that Congress and the White House can agree on a bill to raise the debt ceiling without undermining the safety and efficiency of the NAS.

NATCA will continue to advocate on this subject and keep you updated as the

legislative process continues.

Read the letter [here](#).

NATCA EVP LeBovidge and Other Union Leaders Meet with FAA Academy Students in Oklahoma City

On April 19, NATCA hosted an in-person meet & greet event at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse in Oklahoma City. The event was attended by more than 40 ATC students from the FAA Academy at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City.



NATCA Hosts Meet & Greet for FAA Academy Students

Oklahoma City | April 2023

At the event, the students had the opportunity to meet with NATCA Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge, Northwest Mountain Region RVP Alex Navarro III, Organizing Committee Chair John Bratcher (Fort Smith ATCT, FSM), Southwest Region Reloaded Rep. Saja Cox (Oklahoma City ATCT, OKC), Union Synergy Co-Chair Maurice Franklin (Potomac TRACON, PCT), National Training Rep. Jamaal Haltom (Las Vegas ATCT, LAS), and Professional Standards Committee Member Christopher Keyes (Washington Center, ZDC).

The NATCA representatives talked to those in attendance about the different aspects of NATCA and answered questions from attendees.

FAA to Accept Applications for Entry-Level

Candidates for Air Traffic Control

The FAA's 2023 application window for entry-level air traffic controllers will be open May 5-8. Don't miss out. Find out if you're eligible and prepare your application now [here](#).



**JOIN OUR
AMAZING
PROFESSION!**

APPLY TO BECOME AN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER

APPLICATION WINDOW OPEN MAY 5-8, 2023

LEARN MORE: WWW.FAA.GOV/BE-ATC

NATCA

PHOTO: NATCA member Mylinka Brogdon works at Atlanta Center (ZTL)

DEADLINE EXTENDED: Convention Hotel Cutoff Is May 1 at 12 PM ET

NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention will be held at The Diplomat in Hollywood, Fla., from June 19-22, 2023. Planning to attend the convention is a two-step process: (1) Registering for the convention, and (2) booking your hotel room.

For Convention, NATCA National does not pay for members' hotel rooms nor make their hotel reservations. Hotel reservations are the responsibility of the individual member and are paid for by the member or their local.

ARE YOU READY FOR CONVENTION?

1.

REGISTER FOR CONVENTION

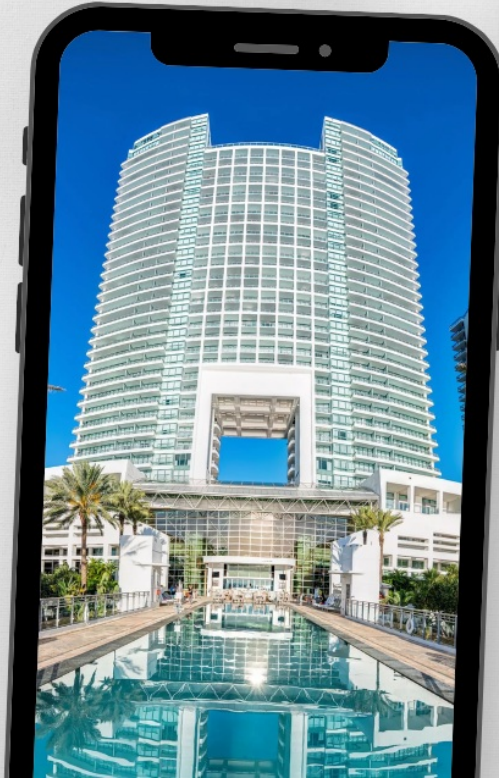
Registration for NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention is open.

2.

RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM

Utilize the links provided on the website.

THE CUTOFF DATE TO BOOK YOUR ROOM IS MAY 1.



The NATCA Convention Rate is \$249/per night, plus tax. The cutoff date to book your room is May 1 at 12 PM ET.

To register for Convention, click [here](#).

To book your room, click [here](#).

If you have any questions, or if you'd like assistance booking, changing, or canceling a reservation, you can call the hotel at (855) 689-2911.

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